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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

In re application of:

Charles J. JACOBUS et al.

Examiner: Tyrone W. Smith

Art Unit: 2837

Application No.: 09/638,485

Filed: August 14, 2000

For: FORCE FEEDBACK SYSTEM AND ACTUATOR
POWER MANAGEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box RCE
Washington, DC 20231

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you

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

OK to enter

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Please rewrite the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 15 as follows:

Further, by reacting to remote forces present on a slave device, the prior art devices lack the capability of creating a three-dimensional tactile virtual reality environment whereby a user's actions and reactions are related to a simulated world such as simulations of driving or flying functions, simulation of molecular force interactions, or simulations of surgical procedures. U.S. Patent No. 5,044,956 to Behensky et al. discloses a system whereby a steering wheel is used to input positions to a simulation which in turn actuates the wheel in response to simulated artifacts. This system does not disclose or anticipate the simulation and coordination of the six-degrees of freedom required for the arbitrary positioning and orientation of solid objects. Similarly, prior art devices which simulate virtual reality by visual feedback to a user are not capable of accepting tactile inputs and providing tactile force feedback.